## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

STATE OF OKLAHOMA,	)
	)
Plaintiff,	)
	)
<b>v.</b>	) Case No. 05-cv-329-GKF(SAJ)
	)
TYSON FOODS, INC., et al.,	)
	)
Defendants.	)

STATE OF OKLAHOMA'S NOTICE OF FILING OF SUPPLEMENTAL AUTHORITY IN FURTHER SUPPORT OF ITS RESPONSE TO "MOTION OF TYSON FOODS, INC., TYSON POULTRY, INC., TYSON CHICKEN, INC., COBB-VANTRESS, INC., SIMMONS FOODS, INC., WILLOW BROOK FOODS, INC., CAL-MAINE FOODS, INC., CAL-MAINE FARMS, INC., GEORGE'S, INC., GEORGE'S FARMS, INC., PETERSON FARMS, INC., CARGILL TURKEY PRODUCTION, LLC, AND CARGILL, INC. FOR PARTIAL JUDGMENT AS A MATTER OF LAW BASED ON PLAINTIFFS' LACK OF STANDING"

COMES NOW Plaintiff, the State of Oklahoma, ex rel. W.A. Drew Edmondson, in his capacity as Attorney General of the State of Oklahoma, and Oklahoma Secretary of the Environment, C. Miles Tolbert, in his capacity as the Trustee for Natural Resources for the State of Oklahoma under CERCLA (the "State"), and submits this Notice of Filing of Supplemental Authority in further support of the "State of Oklahoma's Response to 'Motion of Tyson Foods, Inc., Tyson Poultry, Inc., Tyson Chicken, Inc., Cobb-Vantress, Inc., Simmons Foods, Inc., Willow Brook Foods, Inc., Cal-Maine Foods, Inc., Cal-Maine Farms, Inc., George's, Inc., George's Farms, Inc., Peterson Farms, Inc., Cargill Turkey Production, LLC, and Cargill, Inc. for Partial Judgment as a Matter of Law Based on Plaintiffs' [sic] Lack of Standing'" [DKT #1111] ("State's Response").

- 1. The State's Response was timely filed on March 30, 2007. See DKT #1111.
- 2. On April 2, 2007, the United States Supreme Court handed down its decision in Massachusetts v. Environmental Protection Agency, \_\_\_ U.S. \_\_\_, 2007 WL 957332 (April 2,

2007), a case involving review of the denial of a petition brought by a group of states, local governments and private organizations for the EPA to begin regulating certain emissions (including CO<sub>2</sub>) from motor vehicles under the Clean Air Act.

3. In this decision, the Supreme Court confirms the vitality of a state's standing to seek redress of matters pertaining to environmental harms. Specifically, the Supreme Court stated:

Well before the creation of the modern administrative state, we recognized that States are not normal litigants for the purposes of invoking federal jurisdiction. As Justice Holmes explained in *Georgia v. Tennessee Copper Co.*, 206 U. S. 230, 237 (1907), a case in which Georgia sought to protect its citizens from air pollution originating outside its borders:

The case has been argued largely as if it were one between two private parties; but it is not. The very elements that would be relied upon in a suit between fellow-citizens as a ground for equitable relief are wanting here. The State owns very little of the territory alleged to be affected, and the damage to it capable of estimate in money, possibly, at least, is small. This is a suit by a State for an injury to it in its capacity of quasi-sovereign. In that capacity the State has an interest independent of and behind the titles of its citizens, in all the earth and air within its domain. It has the last word as to whether its mountains shall be stripped of their forests and its inhabitants shall breathe pure air.'

Just as Georgia's 'independent interest . . . in all the earth and air within its domain' supported federal jurisdiction a century ago, so too does Massachusetts' well-founded desire to preserve its sovereign territory today. Cf. Alden v. Maine, 527 U. S. 706, 715 (1999) (observing that in the federal system, the States 'are not relegated to the role of mere provinces or political corporations, but retain the dignity, though not the full authority, of sovereignty'). That Massachusetts does in fact own a great deal of the 'territory alleged to be affected' only reinforces the conclusion that its stake in the outcome of this case is sufficiently concrete to warrant the exercise of federal judicial power.

Massachusetts, \_\_\_\_ U.S. at \_\_\_\_, 2007 WL 957332, \*13 (emphasis added).

4. Similarly, the State in this action is asserting standing based on not only its property (including ownership) interests in natural resources located in the Oklahoma

portion of the Illinois River Watership, but also its "interest independent of and behind the titles of its citizens, in all the earth and air within its domain." See, e.g., State's Response, pp. 1-2.

5. Accordingly, under *Massachusetts* the State has standing. Defendants' Motion should therefore be denied.

## Conclusion

Wherefore, in light of the foregoing, it is clear that the State has legally protected interests in the natural resources located in the Oklahoma portion of the Illinois River Watershed. Therefore, the "Motion of Tyson Foods, Inc., Tyson Poultry, Inc., Tyson Chicken, Inc., Cobb-Vantress, Inc., Simmons Foods, Inc., Willow Brook Foods, Inc., Cal-Maine Foods, Inc., Cal-Maine Farms, Inc., George's, Inc., George's Farms, Inc., Peterson Farms, Inc., Cargill Turkey Production, LLC, and Cargill, Inc. for Partial Judgment as a Matter of Law Based on Plaintiffs' [sic] Lack of Standing" [DKT #1076] should be denied in its entirety.

Respectfully Submitted,

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